

# FURRY



# FRIENDS

**Shelter Location:**  
3456 Tchulahoma Road  
Memphis, TN 38118  
(901) 362-5310

[www.memphisanimalservices.petfinder.com](http://www.memphisanimalservices.petfinder.com)

**Shelter Hours:**  
Monday- 10:00 to 3:00  
Tuesday-Friday- 10:00 to 5:00  
Saturday- 10:00 to 3:00  
Sunday- Closed

**Adoption Fees:**  
Dogs/puppies- \$75  
Cats/kittens- \$70  
(includes shots, spay/neuter & micro-chipping)

**Contact:**  
Kathryn Rhea, *Furry Friends* Editor  
[Kathryn.rhea@gmail.com](mailto:Kathryn.rhea@gmail.com)

*Furry Friends is written independently and the views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views, policies or actions of Memphis Animal Services or any other person(s) or group(s).*

## NEWS TO KNOW

- There is a new adoption event schedule for MAS beginning in September as well as many special events planned for a busy month. There will be an event at the Petco at Poplar & Highland every Tuesday from 11-3 & at the Hollywood Feed on Union every 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday from 3-7. As it gets cooler, they will continue the adoption events at the Petco at Poplar & Highland the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays; the Hollywood Feed on Union the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday; & the Hollywood Feed at Poplar & Erin the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday.
- The Humane Society of Memphis & Shelby County hired a new executive director, Carol Carlson, who started August 17. Check out their recently revamped [website!](#)
- The 14th annual Running of the Weenies is Sept. 13 as a part of the Germantown Festival. Races will be held at the Germantown Horse Show Arena starting at 3 & a "best dressed hot dog" contest starting at 2:30. For more information and an application to enter your 'weenie', call the Germantown Animal Shelter at 757-7358.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- 🐾 **Monday, Aug. 31:** Memphis Companion Animal Group Meeting  
Central Library: 3030 Poplar 7-9
- 🐾 **Tuesday, Sept. 1:** Petco Adoption Event  
3468 Poplar & Highland 11-3
- 🐾 **Saturday, Sept. 5:** Petco Adoption Event  
3468 Poplar & Highland 11-4
- 🐾 **Tuesday, Sept. 8:** Petco Adoption Event  
3468 Poplar & Highland 11-3
- 🐾 **Saturday, Sept. 12:** Hollywood Feed Adoption Event  
2015 Union Avenue 11-4
- 🐾 **Monday, Sept. 14:** MAS Advisory Board Meeting (Note: date change)  
City Hall- 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conf. Room 10:00
- 🐾 **Tuesday, Sept. 15:** Petco Adoption Event  
3468 Poplar & Highland 11-3
- 🐾 **Saturday, Sept. 19:** Petco Adoption Event  
3468 Poplar & Highland 11-4  
PEACE! Adoption Day & Pet Walk  
Audubon Park 11-4
- 🐾 **Tuesday, Sept. 22:** Blessing of the Animals  
Memphis Animal Shelter 11:30-12:30  
Petco Adoption Event  
3468 Poplar & Highland 11-3
- 🐾 **Thursday, Sept. 24:** Hollywood Feed Adoption Event  
2015 Union Avenue 3-7
- 🐾 **Saturday, Sept. 26:** Hollywood Feed Adoption Event  
4864 Poplar & Erin 11-4  
2nd Annual Woofstock  
Overton Park 11-5
- 🐾 **Tuesday, Sept. 29:** Petco Adoption Event  
3468 Poplar & Highland 11-3

## ANOTHER GOOD DOG RESCUE

Poor [Jacque](#) was just another dog who was surrendered to the Memphis Animal Shelter by an owner who simply stated they could "no longer keep." Lisa Trenthem, with [Good Dog Rescue](#), rescued him the minute she laid eyes on him at the shelter. After some dental work, he was placed up for adoption.

Well, Trish and Ron Adams saw a lot in little Jacque. They adopted him, changed his name to Jocko, and now he has a job! Here's an update from Trish and Ron:

*"We love our little Jocko. He gives more love everyday and is always happy. I started taking him to see my mother at the nursing home and now they have asked him to be their therapy dog! We are so pleased with him and we can tell how much he loves his new home with us. Nothing seems to bother him....wheelchairs, walkers and laundry carts. He just accepts everything and everybody. Just wanted you to know how much we love him and the joy he brings us and others."*

It's amazing that he went from being close to euthanized at one of the high-rate kill shelters in the area to now giving love and joy back to others. Thanks, Trish and Ron, for all you've done for this great dog! And we thank Good Dog Rescue for all the animals that they saved from the Memphis Animal Shelter. So many great dogs would not have had a future without their help!



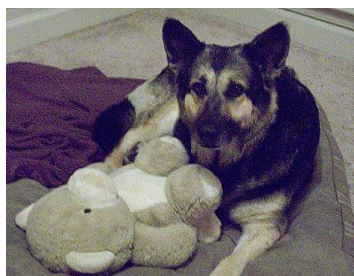
## LITTER BOX GONE?

Last month I told you that I had begun the process of training my cat to do her business in a human toilet instead of a litter box. I left you at the step where I placed a metal bowl with some litter in it, resting on the inside rim of the toilet, with the seat down over it. Well, we are pretty much at the same step. I've been out of town every weekend (wedding season) so it's been hard not to be able to spend my spare time working on potty training. She hasn't mastered the correct positioning of her feet & is having trouble 'aiming' & occasionally misses her 'target.' This isn't fun to clean up & I have to admit I was getting to the point where I thought about giving up. But I refuse to give up & promise that I'm re-committing myself to potty training since I'll be in town on the weekends for a bit. Next, I'm going to attempt to replace the litter in the pan with a little bit of water so she'll have to put her feet on the seat instead of in the pan. Fingers crossed she doesn't decide to potty elsewhere & the litter box is gone by my next report.

## RIP BELLA ROSE

Bella Rose, a German Shepherd adopted from MAS last year by Diane McManus, lost her battle for life on August 24. Diane [blogged](#) about their journey together & Bella's struggle to overcome many issues became an inspiration to all who read.

Their story was featured in the [December issue of Furry Friends](#). As an avenue to help cope with her loss, Diane wrote an open letter to Bella's former owners who abused her for years in hopes it will make at least one person who hurts animals rethink their actions: [WREG-TV: Animal Activist Writes Letter to Dog Abuser](#). Rest in Peace Bella, your



fighting spirit will be remembered & your story will be a testament to anti-cruelty advocates everywhere.

*"Your pet may be gone from your life, but never from your heart." -B Pulsifer*

## AN OLDER, TIRED-LOOKING DOG

An older, tired-looking dog wandered into my yard; I could tell from his collar and well-fed belly that he had a home and was well taken care of. He calmly came over to me. I gave him a few pats on his head. He then followed me into my house, slowly walked down the hall, curled up in the corner and fell asleep.

An hour later, he went to the door, and I let him out. The next day he was back, greeted me in my yard, and walked inside. He resumed his spot in the hall and again he slept for about an hour.

This continued off and on for several weeks.

Curious, I pinned a note to his collar:

'I would like to find out who the owner of this wonderful sweet dog is, and ask if you are aware that almost every afternoon your dog comes to my house for a nap.'

The next day he arrived for his nap, with a different note pinned to his collar:

'He lives in a home with 6 children, 2 under the age of 3, and he's trying to catch up on his sleep. Can I come with him tomorrow?'

## Hot Diggity Dogs!

A benefit for Mid-South Spay & Neuter Services

Sunday, September 13th

3:00-6:00 pm

Dogs Rule, 2265 Central Ave.

\$20 per person at door

\$5 kids 12 and under

Dogs Free

Picnic food, beer and soft drinks included.

cash/check/VISA/MC/Discover



Sponsored & Hosted by

Fun and frolic with your four-legged family members. You and your dog can play games and win prizes. Dogs must be up to date on shots and must arrive on leash. Dogs Rule students will be allowed off leash in play areas.



## AN INCREDIBLE REUNION

Lavell came to the Memphis Animal Shelter looking for his lost dog, which was not there but had returned home when he got there. While at the shelter he found his dog that was stolen four years ago! He identified her to the shelter by a broken tooth she had lost when she was a puppy that she had no one else would know about. The next day, he brought pictures he had of her from four years ago. From his pictures, it is apparent he takes immaculate care of his dogs and he said "Sheeba" would be beautiful again in no time. It is obvious she has had lots of puppies since she was taken from him and he is having her spayed at the shelter to prevent anymore unwanted litters. Roe Johnson was the officer who brought Sheeba in and was so thrilled to hear the story. She said Sheeba came right up to her when she saw her wandering in the street. Sheeba was crossing the street just at the right time! This truly is an incredible reunion!



## 🐾🐾🐾🐾 **HOW YOU CAN HELP** 🐾🐾🐾🐾

Many people have asked me how they can help the animals at the Memphis Animal Shelter. Most of them said they cringe at the thought of visiting the shelter or don't have time. I've brainstormed some ideas that I think will help without having to visit the shelter. (I will continue to think of other ways to help and let you know.)

🐾 **MARKETING, MARKETING, MARKETING:** This is a vital component to raising awareness about the shelter, saving the lives of animals, and ensuring the success of adoptions events. (Even sending *Furry Friends* to a friend is helping get the word out!)

- *Adoption Event Marketing-* Marketing of adoption events prior to the event can only produce positive outcomes, such as attracting more potential adopters stopping by the event & fewer impulse adoptions, which in turn produce better homes for the animals. An easy way for you to make a huge difference is to make signs to promote adoption events. Post the signs in the area around the upcoming event and then take the signs down after the event. If we had one person assigned to each event location, this will make a huge difference in the success of adoption events. If you would like to help market adoption events, email me, [Kathryn/rhea@gmail.com](mailto:Kathryn/rhea@gmail.com) so we can organize who will post signs for what events & that way we will know what events are covered & which events are not.

- *Website Marketing-* The Internet has proven to be a great avenue to 'advertise' the shelter. Post pictures of animals & their information on social networking sites & websites such as Craigslist to help attract attention. Follow Friends of MAS on Twitter, Facebook, & on the Petfinder website for updates throughout the month on information to post.

🐾 **DONATIONS:** Organize a donation drive at your school or work & collect donations for MAS. The shelter's budget accounts for the basics (food, shots, etc.) but donations of 'luxury' items can make a difference. (*Ask for Stacy Anderson, Tracy Dunlap or a volunteer when dropping off donations at the shelter just so they don't get lost in the hustle and bustle.*) A few suggestions are:

- Cat & dog treats
- Grooming items (flea shampoo, brushes, nail clippers, etc.)
- Small animal supplies (guinea pigs, gerbils, rabbits)
- Inexpensive cat toys (since most can't be sanitized they have to be thrown away to prevent spread of disease)
- Distilled Water
- Towels, washcloths, & bath mats
- Canned kitten & puppy food

Or do you have items your pet no longer needs such as food dishes, collars, leashes, cat scratching posts, kennels, etc.? Contact a local rescue to donate them. Some rescues need donations of other supplies including bedding, digital cameras, computers, printers, professional services, etc. Go to [Petfinder](http://Petfinder) to find a list of rescues in the area. Most post wish lists on their websites.

🐾 **SPAY/NEUTER ADVOCATE:** Educate your friends or anyone that you encounter who does not have their pets spayed or neutered. Tell them about the thousands of unwanted pets put to sleep each year in Memphis alone & that even one litter adds to the problem. Sounds crazy, but show them pictures of just a few of the faces in cages at the shelter. Most of them will be euthanized. Sometimes giving a visual will put things in perspective. Besides being socially responsible, inform them of the additional reasons to spay/neuter their pets. The facts are, spayed & neutered pets are usually healthier, better behaved & live on the average of 2-3 years longer than unsterilized pets. Give them information on low-cost options as well:

- [Mid-South Spay & Neuter Services](#)
- [Pet Vax](#)
- MS "No Litterings" Spay Clinics: Tupelo: 662-871-2420 / Byhalia: 662-252-6196
- [Humane Society of Memphis & Shelby County- Participating Veterinary Clinics](#)

🐾 **PROPER IDENTIFICATION:** If you see a friend's dog or cat without a collar with an ID tag, inform them of the statistics of pets who become lost & their chances of finding their pet without proper identification. It's one less pet that hopefully not enter the shelter without the ability to tell anyone who they belong to. And of course, make sure your pets have identification!

🐾 **FOSTER:** Sometimes all an animal needs is a little more time. Whether it is to overcome an illness, the shelter is too full, or they are too young, offering your home to a pet in need for a few days or weeks could be life-saving. One of the most satisfying things you can see is your foster animal find a wonderful permanent home. MAS has a foster program or most rescues rely strictly on fosters to house pets that are waiting for a new home.

🐾 **VOLUNTEER:** Of course if you are able to, MAS needs volunteers to walk dogs eagerly awaiting adoption; help potential adopters get acquainted with animals; match lost animals with their anxious owners; socialize with puppies & cats who are cooped up in their cages; foster underage kittens; assist with community affairs projects and adoption events. Visit the [Friends of Memphis Animal Services](#) Petfinder website for an application and for more information.

## SCARED BUT SWEET LUCY

Last November, my husband and I took our 4 year old son to the Memphis Animal Shelter to see if there were any dogs there that we thought would be a good addition to our family. We have two daughters that were at school at the time, but our son is blind and this is a factor for us when choosing a dog for our family. We already had two dogs when we went to MAS that day, a senior German Shepherd (GSD) that we adopted from Bartlett Animal Shelter 4 years ago and a 2 year old Chi/Shih Tzu. Did we need another dog? Not really. But I am a total dog lover and cannot stomach the knowledge that so many wonderful dogs are put down because there aren't enough homes to go around, so we went to look around.

I had previously seen a white German Shepherd on the MAS Petfinder site that I wanted to see in person. My husband and I walked through the stray area looking at all the poor dogs that were there, practically begging to be adopted. We came across the white shepherd that I had seen online, but something in her eye when she looked at us just made us a little leery. We decided to look at the puppies that were in the cat area and saw one in there that we liked, but I was pretty adamant that we choose a dog that was not still a "puppy" because the puppies have an easier chance of getting adopted. We then walked through the area where the dogs were that had been going on adoption days-the ones that were past their due out dates. My husband walked ahead of me carrying our son and as he turned a corner at the end of a row of enclosures, I caught sight of a gorgeous shepherd mix who was cowering in the back of her cage. Once my husband was out of her sight, she came up to the front of the cage and sniffed my hand. She was the sweetest, scarest dog. She broke my heart. My husband came back by and she hid again. He had the same impression of her that I did-she was a great dog but very scared from having been at the shelter so long. We had a volunteer get her out of her kennel for us and we took her into one of the rooms to see how she was with our son feeling all over her. She was good with him, but very scared of my husband and me. We thought about it and discussed it a lot and decided that she would be going home with us. I just couldn't leave this dog there knowing how scared she was and seeing how hard it was for her to be near people-there was no way anyone was going to adopt her and I knew her time was running out (her card showed she was an owner surrender and she had been there a month.)

That was the Monday before Thanksgiving. "Lucy" came home the next afternoon after she was spayed. She spent almost the entire first week hiding from my husband and my children. She would come out for me but the moment my husband walked into the room she would run and hide. It became really clear to us right away that this poor beautiful girl had been beaten by her former "owners." If I raised my voice at one of my children, she would cower in fear. It was awful.

We have come very far since then. Lucy is the BEST dog! She loves my children (although some days she seems to relapse and hides from them) and she adores me. She is much better with my husband, but I don't know that she will ever be as friendly with him as she is with me. She makes a wonderful guard dog (not that that was our intention when we brought her home) because she is so fearful of humans that any time someone comes in my house she barks and barks. If a man comes in my house, she hides, which is a sure sign that whoever her "owner" was that beat her was a man.



Our experience adopting Lucy has been an interesting one. I wish that I could call it a huge success, but I don't know that many people would agree with that. I think that what we have with Lucy is a peaceful loving family that she may have otherwise never had. There are days when it completely breaks my heart how scared she gets when my husband walks in the room, but then there are days when she will lay on the couch between us and she will lick my husband on his arm or his hand and I know that she feels secure and that gives me such joy. I wasn't prepared for her "rehabilitation" to take as long as it has and I have been warned by the vet that she may never be the happy dog that we wish she could be, but I would not trade this experience with Lucy for anything in the world. As I write this she is asleep on the loveseat near me, totally content and that is all I could ever hope for.

*-The Bush Family*

*(Lucy is extremely 'camera-shy' to say the least.)*

## ROCKERS FOR PAWS

Benefiting the Humane Society of Memphis & Shelby County  
Sunday, September 6 from 3 pm until 2 am  
\$10 admission at the door

Neil's Bar & Grille, 1835 Madison in Midtown Memphis

Featuring bands: Rusty Lemmon, R. T. Scott, Jimmy Hudson Band, The Vynals, Jeremiah Tucker, Deuces Wild, Sister of Lisa, Joecephus & The George Jonestown Massacre, Katie Gammel, Rebecah Almond with Brandon McGovern, Failure to Stop, & comedy by TR.

Sponsored by: Yarbrough's Music, WTF Photography, American Guitar Institute & Neil's Bar & Grille

For more info call 901-326-6387 or 901-619-6490



## GET A DOG!

Ben Stein has some thoughts on how to get through the recession.

His advice? Get a dog!

[You Tube: The Divinity of Dogs](#)

Check out the bright new design of the [Friends of Memphis Animal Services](#) Petfinder website to stay up-to-date throughout the month!



## MEETING TO INSTILL CHANGE

**Topic:** Concerns/Issues/Ideas for our Community Companion Animals

**When:** Monday, August 31<sup>st</sup> 7:00pm - 9:00pm

**Where:** Central Library: 3030 Poplar Avenue, Memphis TN 38111

Main lobby meeting room- signs will be posted



Let's all get together on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves: our companion animals!

A small group of Memphis citizens have been meeting to discuss the companion animals in our community and the problems they face. We have discussed the proposed 'Mandatory Spay Neuter Ordinance,' have researched other city/state plans and have looked at alternative ideas. And we realize we need everyone: you, your friends and all who care for the animals in our community. We need to work together, involved and supportive on common goals to make a difference.

The goal is not only to work together to accomplish more for the animals but to gain the support of our government leaders. With the election for Memphis Mayor coming up, we plan to host a forum, invite the candidates and give them the opportunity to let us know what their stand is on our community animal issues. We plan to invite all media, etc. and use this opportunity to bring public awareness. But we want to do this UNITED and ORGANIZED.

*Most Important- This is what they need from you:*

1. Please make a list of your concerns for the companion animals in our community.
2. Pick the three most important and list them in order of importance (# 1 being the most important).
3. Add your ideas for solutions to these concerns. If you know of plans utilized in other communities, add the link to that information as well.
4. E-mail your response to [gailp@bellsouth.net](mailto:gailp@bellsouth.net) before August 30 and/or bring it with you to the meeting.

We will have a facilitator at the meeting to keep us focused on the agenda: 3 common goals for the sake of the animals. Look outside your individual service to the animals. Look for the issues that affect the community companion animals, by finding solutions for these issues many other issues will be impacted. For the meeting we will tabulate the top 3 and open for discussion all proposed solutions! All issues and the number showing how many responded will be displayed.

## COZINESS FOR THE CATS



The Kuranda dog bed drive at MAS was a very successful effort by the volunteers. So, we are thrilled that Kuranda has just announced their new cat beds! We have been looking to increase the comfort levels for the cats and think a comfortable bed is just the start. Kuranda's new cat bed provides the same raised, orthopedic comfort as the dog bed, but the size was especially designed to fit into cat cages. The additional level increases floor space as well as gives the cat the opportunity to jump up and view the world from his/her raised perch. The long legs of the bed accommodate a litter pan underneath the bed.

We encourage you to donate one today!

<http://kuranda.com/donate/3721/>

## HOPE FOR HIS REMAINING DAYS



On or around December 7 or 8, I was looking through the "Pets" section of Craigslist and saw the title "Has Anyone Lost a Senior Lab?" For some reason I clicked on that link to see the picture. I have never owned a Lab, but I have *always* wanted one. For the better part of my life we had German Shepherds and a whole bunch of the best mutt dogs on this planet! Four years ago my brother asked me if I could take in his senior Retriever and I told him I would. It was one of the best decisions I have ever made! Anyway, I clicked on the link and immediately feel in love with this dog. He was so skinny and looked so scared. It was heartbreaking to see him looking through the cage at the person taking his picture. Well, first thing the next morning I called my best friend and asked him if he would go look at this dog for me. He works around the corner and I live outside of Memphis. I just wanted to make sure that this dog was not aggressive because I already had my senior Retriever, Carly, and I knew she could not take a dog with temperament issues. My friend called me and said this dog was one of the kindest dogs he had ever been around. He also told me that he had been found wandering the streets of Memphis and was very thin and old. It did not matter to me one bit. I knew this dog was coming home with me. So, the next day I head for the shelter and met my friend there as well. When they brought the Lab out to me it was so hard to look at him because he was emaciated and could barely walk. No way was he going to be adopted unless a miracle happened. The people at the shelter were nice, but they tried hard to make me understand that he was sick with a severe case of heartworms and that there was little to no chance he would survive. I did not care. I had already made up my mind that if he only had a month left on this earth it would be a good month. The shelter people asked me to have my Vet verify that I would bring him in to have the heartworm situation checked so I called my Vet and she faxed a letter to them. After a lengthy wait I was able to leave with him. He could not get into the truck by himself so we helped him. He then laid down beside me and put his leg on my thigh. When we got home I helped him out of the truck and showed him his new home. He could barely walk because of his

emaciated condition and one of his hind legs had obviously been hurt at some point & he hardly ever used it except for balance made it even more difficult. Carly had Mast Cell Cancer last year and lost a lot of her appetite. Her cancer Vet suggested that I boil a chicken in water and mix some chicken in her food with a little of the chicken broth so I decided this is what my new doggie needed. When I put that bowl of food in front of him it nearly made me cry. It was as if he did not believe his good fortune! Once he started eating I thought he would never stop! When he was finally full he went to the den and laid on his new bed. My Retriever and Lab were fast friends. I think they both knew that they had a bond together of age and sickness. I let my daughter choose his name and she decided on "Espoir" which is French for "Hope." He now had hope. My Vet told me to put some weight on him and bring him in. After a little more than 6 weeks I did bring him in, but we got bad news. Espoir had a very severe case of heartworms and with his age and the fact that there was a case of heart disease she told me that she could not do the necessary treatment for heartworms. I was sick to my stomach, but determined to give him a good life and a dignified end to his life. Shortly after this visit Espoir stopped eating. We tried everything we could think of to get him to eat. I used everything I could think of to bribe him, but he would have no part of it and I would not force him. On the 5<sup>th</sup> day of this I took him to my Vet and had him put to sleep. We stood right beside him with tears in our eyes and rubbed his beautiful coat until he was gone. It was the most difficult thing for me to do! I just hope Espoir knew that he had found a family that loved him completely for the last couple of months of his life. He was the sweetest dog and I will NEVER regret adopting him. I am so thankful for opening that link on Craigslist. By the way, he gained over 30 pounds while he was here! That chicken and broth worked it's magic! God Bless You, Espoir! We miss you! -The Dykes Family



As you can see he was our first present under the tree! He hobbled straight over there and plopped down.



He liked to find the nearest male & lay right under his feet.



His best friend, Carly